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Jun 24th 2019

Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I choose a competitive broadband provider for the superior price to performance, customer service, and to support local small businesses. Small businesses which are the backbone of the American Economy. Without competitive services I would not have been able to leave the world of dial-up and become a broadband subscriber when I did, and today I would not have service as my home is not served by a major cable company. The local cable company will not provide me service in my home. I have coworkers who are denied wireline phone services and told to pay more for satellite connections in the wake of wildfires because landlines are deemed to be too expensive. My competitive telephone service lets me call cross the nation and speak with my son at local rates as opposed to being able to only call within my own community and having to pay for long distance on my landline.

Without competition we have no benchmark, we have no redundancy, and we have no friendly local service, only the robot on the end of the phone tree to talk to when things go wrong.

Joseph Eckstein